

To: "Palma, Joseph, Col, OSD-ATL" <Joseph.Palma@osd.mil>
Fcc: DSB
Cc: "Klein, Dale, Hon, OSD-ATL" <Dale.Klein@osd.mil>,
"Freeland, Raymond, COL, OSD-ATL" <Raymond.Freeland@osd.mil>
Subject: Chem/Bio Defense Attacks -- DoD organization

Mon Feb 23 16:42:35 EST 2004

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Sir, per our telecom, Dr Klein asked me to send you our thoughts on how to proceed in case there is a more robust attack on the nation with chemical or biological agents.

We are proposing establishing a Homeland Defense Policy Development team to define DoD potential areas of responsibility and scope of the work. We would like to request your insight and suggestions.

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Dear Col. Palma

I've long since downrated my competence to advise how USG should organize itself. So, my remarks are laden with a lot of humility.

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How many org-charts have I seen on this topic? What is current state of play, esp. how NorthCom fits into planning?

I translate ToR: DoD's posture and responsibility for attacks on (civilian) homeland of such scale and quality that they overwhelm the capabilities of local responders and DHS assets.

For such planning, I would expect to see coordination/involvement

- o within DoD: ASHA; DTRA
- o across govt: DHS; Homeland Security Council; DHHS (Secy' office; CDC; NIH); USVA; IC;

I just don't know who's already doing what, and with what license. Dale Klein knows much on matters on which I am woefully behind.

Alas, I do see prospects of attacks that will oblige us to rely on whatever assets can be mobilized. Role of DoD is hard to plan; but e.g. just having a force that's been immunized to smallpox and anthrax gives them a mobility and flexibility for serving basic survival needs of urban populations. MOPP-training is another plus.

You may need to tell me whether I'm way off base on my assumptions.

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